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Customer Number

**APR 0 5 2006**PATENT  
Docket No.: 54402US028

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

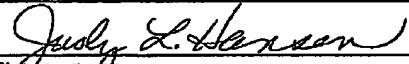
In re Application of:

MATTHEW T. SCHOLZ, MARGIE A. CRONE,  
NICHOLAS R. BAUMANN and LEON LEVITTSerial No.: 09/982,741  
Filed: October 17, 2001

Group Art Unit: 1772

Examiner: N. Ahmad

For: FRICTION CONTROL ARTICLES FOR  
HEALTHCARE APPLICATIONS

Certificate of Transmission	
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Date: April 5, 2006	Printed Name: Judy L. Hansen

**PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.136(a)**

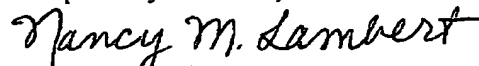
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

The deadline for filing a response to the Office Action mailed October 5, 2005 originally required a reply by January 5, 2006.

Applicants desire additional time to respond to the Office Action, and therefore request that the deadline for reply to the Office Action be extended under the provisions of Rule 136(a) to April 5, 2006. Authorization is hereby provided to charge any fee required in connection with this paper, including the \$1,020.00 fee under 37 CFR 1.17(a)(3) for consideration of this extension to Account No. 13-3723. A duplicate copy of this sheet is also enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,



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Attorney for Applicants

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Dated: April 5, 2006